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The Delta Vision Foundation was established by former members of the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force, the independent body convened under Governor's Executive Order

S-17-06. The mission of the Delta Vision Foundation is to encourage implementation and progress by the State of California toward achieving the Two Co-Equal Goals as defined in the *Delta Vision Strategic Plan*:

- Restore the Delta Ecosystem
- Ensure Water Supply Reliability

The Delta Vision Foundation monitors, evaluates, and provides information to government officials, policymakers, and the public about implementing the *Delta Vision Strategic Plan* recommendations as a set of integrated and linked actions.

May 15, 2014

California Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Attn: Keith Wallace, Project Manager

RE: **Draft Proposal Solicitation Package 2014 IRWM Drought Solicitation**

Dear Mr. Wallace:

Thank you for making the Draft Proposal Solicitation Package for the 2014 IRWM Drought Solicitation (Draft PSP) available for public review. We appreciate the extraordinary efforts of the staff at the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to expedite preparation of the Draft PSP in response to the drought emergency that we are experiencing this year. We have reviewed the Draft PSP and have one specific comment for your consideration.

The Draft PSP states that DWR intends to target the 2014 IRWM Drought funding to individual IRWM regions with the greatest drought impacts. The Draft PSP implies that grants will only be awarded to projects contained within a specific funding region. We suggest that some portion of the \$200 million in total funding identified for the program be made available to interregional projects that provide statewide drought benefits but cannot be conveniently associated with an individual region.

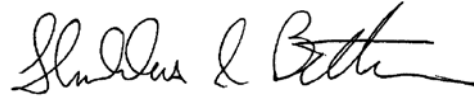
The need to expand water storage capacity and improve groundwater management is clearly highlighted as a critical action in the January 2014 California Water Action Plan, and is even more critical in light of the current drought. The Delta Vision Foundation and the water agencies and non-governmental organizations represented below have been working together with others for the last six months to evaluate how we can all work together to help accomplish this goal. We have identified a need for an integrated, system-wide analysis with a cost of approximately \$500,000 to evaluate how existing and future surface storage and groundwater storage can be developed and operated to provide cost-effective benefits for the state while meeting the two Co-Equal Goals of ecosystem protection and water supply reliability. We feel that this integrated analysis is exactly the kind of project that meets the Draft PSP criteria if DWR were to allocate funding for interregional projects.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (415) 419-5133 or charles@deltavisiondoundation.com.

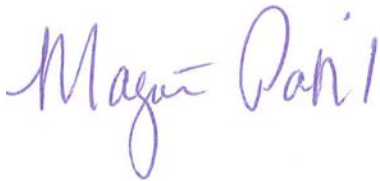
Sincerely,



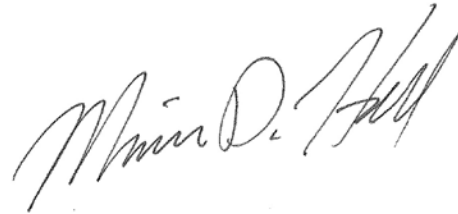
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